

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 05522 152314Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05  
MCE-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 PM-05 STR-07 /086 W  
-----050183 161615Z /43

R 142034Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8280  
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 5522

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TSPA, MMOC, BR, TW  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EXPORT SALES OF BRAZILIAN SOUNDING ROCKETS

REF: BRASILIA 3499 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, COLONEL HUGO DE OLIVEIRA PIVA, HEAD OF THE BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF SPACE ACITIVITIES (IAE), WHICH IS A SUBORDINATE ELEMENT OF THE AEROSPACE TECHNICAL CENTER (CTA) IN SAO PAULO, HAS ANNOUNCED THAT BRAZIL WILL SOON EXPORT AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF SONDA-III SOUNDING ROCKETS TO TAIWAF.

2. COLONEL PIVA WAS QUOTED IN THE 15 JUNE EDITION OF THE RIO DE JANEIRO NEWSPAPER O GLOBO AS SAYING THAT HE HAD BEEN ADVISED BY MAJOR GENERAL YAN FA LIU, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHUANG SHAAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OF FORMOSA, THAT TAIWAN HAD AGREED TO PURCHASE AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF THE SONDA-III ROCKETS, SUBJECT TO FINAL NEGOTIATIONS BY A TAIWANESE DELEGATION WHICH WOULD VISIT BRAZIL IN A FEW MORE MONTHS. COLONEL PIVA ALSO SAID THAT THE DEAL WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY TRANSFER OF UNSPECIFIED BRAZILIAN ROCKET-MAKING TECHNO-  
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LOGY TO TAIWAN AND OF UNSPECIFIED TAIWANESE ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY TO BRAZIL.

3. LATER IN THE O GLOBO ARTICLE, UNIDENTIFIED CTA SOURCES WERE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT BRAZIL WAS CONSIDERING MILITARY APPLICATIONS OF ITS ROCKET TECHNOLOGY, AND FOR THIS PURPOSE WAS INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING GUIDANCE SYSTEMS FROM FORMOSA.

THE TECHNOLOGICAL PRODUCTS OF THE BRAZILIAN SOUNDING ROCKET PROGRAM WERE ALSO IDENTIFIED BY THESE SOURCES AS BEING THE MANUFACTURE OF SEAMLESS ALUMINUM TUBING AND SPECIALIZED ALUMINUM ALLOYS.

4. AS REPORTED REFTEL, IN ITS FINAL TEST LAUNCH ON 26 APRIL 1978, THE SONDA-III CARRIED A 60 KILOGRAM PAYLOAD TO A HEIGHT OF 610 KILOMETERS. THE THREE-STAGE VEHICLE IS ABOUT 10 METERS IN OVERALL LENGTH AND 60 CENTIMETERS IN DIAMETER AND ACHIEVED A MAXIMUM SPEED OF 3100 METERS PER SECOND IN ITS 13 MINUTES FLIGHT. LAUNCH WEIGHT WAS 1596 KILOGRAMS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPORTS, SALES, ALLEGATIONS, ROCKETS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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